THE LESSONS FOR THE DAY.

BEING THE

First and Second Chapters of the Book of PREFERMENT.

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THE LESSONS for the DAY.

The First LESSON.

Here beginneth the First Chapter of the Book of PREFERMENT.

I.

NOW it came to pass in the 15th Year of the Reign of *George* the King, in the 2d Month, on the 10th Day of the Month at Even, that a deep Sleep came upon me, the Visions of the Night possessed my Spirit, I dreamed, and behold *Robert* the Minister came in unto the King, and besought him, saying:

II.

O King, live for ever! let thy Throne be establish'd from Generation to Generation! but behold now the Power which thou gavest unto thy Servant is at an end,

the

the *Chippenham* Election is loſt, and the Enemies of thy Servant triumph over him.

III.

Wherefore now I pray Thee, if I have found Favour in thy Sight, ſuffer thy Servant to depart in Peace, that my Soul may bleſs Thee.

IV.

And when he had ſpoken theſe Words, he reſigned unto the King his Place of Firſt Lord of the Treaſury, his Chancellorſhip of the *Exchequer*, and all his other Preferments.

V.

And great Fear came upon *Robert*, and his Heart ſmote him, and he fled from the Aſſembly of the People, and went up into the Sanctuary, and was ſafe.

VI.

And the Enemies of *Robert* communed amongſt themſelves, ſaying, What ſhall we do unto this Man? And they appointed a Committee to Enquire concerning him.

VII.

VII.

Howbeit the Man from whom they ſought Information was poſſeſs'd with a dumb Spirit, and he opened not his Mouth, neither ſpake he unto them good or bad.

VIII.

Then the Committee were in great Wrath, and they reported this Matter unto the Houſe; but their Report was even as a Fart, which ſtinketh in the Noſtrils for a Moment, and is forgotten.

IX.

And I ſaw in my Sleep, and behold all they who ſought for Places, ruſhed into the Palace in great Numbers; inſomuch that the Courts of the King's Houſe were full.

X.

And they all cried out with one Voice, ſaying, *Give us Places!* and the Sound of their Voice reached to the uttermoſt Parts of the Land.

XI.

And when the People underſtood that theſe Patriots only ſought themſelves Places, they murmured greatly, and they ſaid

ſaid amongſt themſelves, *Verily, verily, all is Vanity and Vexation of Spirit.*

XII.

Why therefore have we ſtriven in Vain? and why have we diſquieted our ſelves in vain? For behold all Men have corrupted their Ways before the Lord, there are none that doth good, no not One.

XIII.

Corruption, as a Moth, hath eaten up their Principles, Poverty and Shame is their Portion, and they and their Sons ſhall be dependent for ever.

XIV.

Nevertheleſs, the Cry of the Patriots continued with great Violence, and it wounded the Ears of the King, inſomuch that he was compelled to ſtop their Mouths by giving them Places.

XV.

As the Cry of the Hounds ceaſeth when the Interals of the Beaſt are divided amongſt them, ſo ceaſed the Clamours of Patriots at the Diſtributions of Places.

Thus endeth the firſt Leſſon.

The Second LESSON.

Here beginneth the Second Chapter of the Book of Preferment.

I.

NOW theſe are the Generations of thoſe that ſought Preferment.

II.

Twenty Years they ſought Preferment, and found it not; yea, twenty Years they wander'd in the Wilderneſs:

III.

Twenty Years they ſought them Places, but they found no Reſting-place for the Soal of the Foot.

IV.

And lo! it came to paſs in the Days of *GEORGE* the King, that they ſaid amongſt themſelves, Go to, let us get ourſelves Places, that it may be well with us, our Wives, and our Little-ones.

V.

V.

And theſe are the Names of the Men that have gotten themſelves Places in this their Day.

VI.

Now the firſt that puſhed himſelf forward in this Affair was the Motion-maker, who being ſwoln with Pride and Ambition, and thirſting in his Heart after the Mammon of Unrighteouſneſs, he determined with himſelf that he would ask for the Chancellorſhip of the Exchequer: But his Party wiſt not what he deſigned.

VII.

Wherefore he went in privily unto the King's Palace, and he got himſelf placed at the Head of the Exchequer, where he ſitteth unto this Day.

VIII.

Who now ſhall bring in the Place-Bill? Who now ſhall make a Motion for Removal? Verily, verily, it is much to be feared, that he who expecteth theſe Things from *S---ds* will be greatly diſappointed.

IX.

IX.

And *C---t---t* the Scribe took the Place of Secretary of State, and *H---gt---n* preſideth at the Council-Board, and *W--lm--gt--n* the Preſident is made Firſt Lord of the T---ſ---y.

X.

In theſe Days Lord *H--r--vy* held the K---g's Signet, and to him ſucceeded Lord *G-----r*.

XI.

And the King had a Guard called Gentlemen-Penſioners, and over them he ſet Lord *B—th—t*.

XII.

Lord *L—mr—k* got the Reverſion after Lord *P—lm—t-n* for himſelf and for his Son after him; and he ſhall be called the King's Remembrancer from Generation to Generation.

XIII.

Lord *Ed——me* was and is not; he was the K—g's Treaſurer in the Land of *Ire-*

land, but be found no Favour in their Eyes, and to him ſucceeded *Harry V—ne*.

XIV.

Henry L—g was Scribe to the Treaſury, but the Name of *L—g* was unſeemly, ſo he is call'd *Henry F—n—ſe* unto this Day.

XV.

Moreover it came to paſs, that for his great Skill in Maritime Affairs, Lord *W—n-ch—ſea* was ſet at the Head of the Admiralty.

XVI.

To Lord *C—bh—m* was given the Firſt Troop of tall Men, call'd Horſe-Grenadiers, and he was likewiſe made a Field-Marſhal.

XVII.

So alſo was Lord *St—r*; moreover he was ſent Ambaſſador unto the *Dutch*, and our Credit encreaſeth amongſt them.

XVIII.

To Lord *S—d—y B—cl—k* ſucceeded *William F—ch*, as Vice-Chamberlain to the

the King: His Brother *Edward* alſo was made Groom of the Bedchamber.

XIX.

And that his Majeſty might not want good and able Counſellors learned in the Law, lo! *M—rr—y* the Orator, and *N—th—l G—nd—y* were appointed K—g's Council.

XX.

But what ſhall be done unto *P—lt—y*? What ſhall be done to the Man whom the King delighteth to honour? For lo! the Word is gone out of his Mouth, he hath ſaid in his Wrath, That he will have no Place.

XXI.

Behold an Expedient! He ſhall no longer be called *W——m P—lt—y*, but the E—l of *B—h*. And what is it to *W—m P—lt—y* what the E—l of *B—h*, ſhall do? What is the Privilege of P—r—ge, but to do what they pleaſe uncenſured?

XXII.

XXII.

These are the Men after their Generations, and many more shall come in unto the Land to possess it.

XXIII.

Of the Tribe of *Jacob* twelve Thousand, of the Tribe of *Andrew* twelve Thousand, of the Tribe of *Patrick* twelve Thousand.

XXIV.

And all these things came to pass, that the Saying of the Prophet *Jonathan* might be fulfilled, *Those that are in shall be as those that are out, and those that are out as those that are in:* But the Lord of *B—h* is over all, and blessed be the Name of the Lord of *B—h*.

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Here endeth the Second Lesson.